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Sri S. JAYARAMA REDDIAR :—" இந்த மதிகெட்டான் என்ற பெயரை மாற்றி அந்த ஏரிக்கு வேறு பெயர் வைக்க அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா ? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" தனிக் கேள்வி போடுங்கள்."

Lathi charge on Taj Mahal Beedi Workers at Washermanpet, Madras.

* 491 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any lathi charge by police on Taj Mahal Beedi Workers at Washermanpet, Madras, on 13th November 1954; and

(*b*) how many workers were

(i) injured;

(ii) arrested by the police on that day; and

(iii) either admitted or treated as out-patients in the hospitals as a result of lathi charge?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) It is reported that forty workers were injured. Seven of them were admitted in the hospital as in-patients while the rest were treated as out-patients. The number of persons arrested by the police so far is 40."

* 492 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any enquiry was conducted into the lathi charge of the Police on the beedi workers employed in Taj Mahal Beedi Factory, Tiruvottiyur, on 13th November 1954; and

(*b*) if so, what the findings of the enquiry were and what action was taken on the finding?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether it is a fact that the police prevented the workers from going near the factory, whether the police adopted a provocative attitude towards the workers and whether the lathi charge on the workers was ordered to help the owner of the factory? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No Sir. The Police were there to prevent any breach of the peace. Workers were allowed to picket peacefully. But when they resorted to violence, a lathi charge was ordered."

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SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" The Hon. the Finance Minister stated that when the workers resorted to violence, a lathi charge was ordered. May I know the names of the so-called loyal workers who were injured as a result of the ' violence ' adopted by the strikers? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I want notice to give the names."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:—" கனம் சபைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இதே பிரச்னையைப்பற்றி சம்பவம் நடந்த மறுதினமே ஒத்திவைப்புப் பிரேரேணை சபைக்குக் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டது ஞாபகம் இருக்கும். இதைப்பற்றி விசாரணை நடத்துவதுபற்றி அரசாங்கம் ஏற்பாடு செய்ததா ? அப்படியானால் விசாரணையின் முடிவு என்ன ? இல்லாவிட்டால் விசாரணை ஏன் நடத்தப்படவில்லை ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" After going into the facts of the case, we thought that there was no need for an enquiry."

SRI P. **JEEVANANDAM**:—" ஏற்கெனவே இதைப்பற்றி அவசரப் பிரேரேணை கொண்டுவந்தபோது இதே சபையில் முதலாளியின் கையாட்களான ரவுடிகள் இந்தத் தொழிலாளர்களைத்தாக்கி கலகத்திற்கு இழுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். போலீஸ்காரர்கள் சமாதானத்திற்கு பங்கம் விளையக்கூடாதென்று லேசான தடியடிப் பிரயோகம் செய்ததாகச் சொல்லப் பட்டது. போலீஸாரின் தடியடிப் பிரயோகத்தால் தொழிலாளிகளுக்குத்தான் படுகாயம் விளைந்திருக்கிறதே ஒழிய முதலாளியின் கையாட்கள் ஒருவர் மீதாவது ஒரு அடியாவது விழுந்திருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The allegation made by the hon. Member is not correct. From the information I have, violence was resorted to by the picketeers and when they found that some of the workers were entering the beedi factory, the Police had to disperse the crowd."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" A solemn assurance was given on the floor of this House that an enquiry would be made by an independent officer. Now, the Hon. Minister comes and says that he sees no need for an enquiry after going into the facts of the case. May I take it that the facts of the case were supplied by the same Police officers against whom allegations were made? I should like to know what happened to the solemn assurance given by the Hon. Minister on the floor of this House? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not know to what solemn assurance the hon. Leader of the Opposition is referring. I do not remember to have given an assurance. We cannot order an enquiry into every incident."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" If the Government cannot order an enquiry into every incident, why should the Hon. Minister promise on the floor of the House that an enquiry would be made in a particular case which had been referred to now? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I do not remember to have given any assurance. I shall certainly look into the matter."